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OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.



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GLEENINGZ FROM OUR ESAI COMPETISHON.

IT wil be manifestli imposibl tu print aul the esaiz sent in. Sum ar hardli ov sufishent valyu; uthertz, which we aulso can not giv in ful, yet contain pasijez that stait sum aspect ov the cwestion neetli or forsibli. We select the foloing :

Ruskin declairz that “thair iz no welth but lief,” and if we can gain, in eni degree, a fuller lief for the children, a sounder preparashon for thair lievz az the sitizenz ov the fyutyur, without ecspendityur ov adishonal tiem or trubl, but meerli bi the remuual ov needles obstaclz from the paath ov normal efort, wood not the chainj be wurth whiel? Shood we not count its benefit a nashonal enrichment?—JOHN HEALEY, Bolton.

Edyucaishon shood meen drauing out the miend, but we begin bi loeding it up with a hyuj burden ov tiepseterz' impedimenta. It iz reali a pitiful thing. If we sind against the bodili weel ov a chield in the saim fashon, modern lau wood hoeld us gilty ov misdemeenor. Whiel a chield iz maastering the *furst paij* ov a speling booc—that pedagogic instrooment ov chield tortyur—it cood lurn the entier sistem ov simplified speling and begin tu reed in the nyu stiel aulmoest strait awai; and the miend, thus prezurvd from its orthografic fog, wood hav cleerer vizhon for its uthert taascs.—HENRY HODDER, Pontefract.

Duu we realiez that our iideal ov byuti iz mainli wun ov yus, and that anuther jeneraishon, yust tu theez "ugli" formz, wood becum cwiet az devoeted tu them az we ar tu the prezent wunz ? We see from pictyurz representing the Cort Byutiz ov oelden daiz that our iideal ov byuti iz not the saim az that ov our forfaatherz. Nai, eeven if we looc at the dres which we ourselvz wor ten or eeven thre yeerz agoe, we fiend that we hav aulredi becum so acustomd tu nyu moedz that the oeld haz litl charm for us. We ar consurvativ and yet adaptabl; we object strongli tu giving up our prezent habits, we disliec the end ov everi faiz ov lief, and yet we veri cwicli groe acustomd tu the nyu and fiend good in that aulso.—JOAN K. ROSE, Nairn.

Ragz that shood bring blushez tu the cheecs ov her puerest Cinderella ar aul that England bestoez on the veri graitest ov her trezherz, her langwij.—J. LLOYD KEATING, Hove.

The English langwij, az spelt and riten in the begining ov the twentieth sentyuri, iz such a caiotic mas ov absurditiz, anomaliz, and contradicshonz, that everi thincing individyual must, at sum peeriod ov hiz lief, hav been struc with wunder and amaizment at the thaut ov eni naishon, with the slietest pretenshonz tu siëntific siviliezaishon, toleraiting longer such a hideus servieval ov our barbarus paast.—GEORGE WEIR, Leeds.

A haizi ieeda prevailz in the miendz ov meni hu pres the etimological argyument that thair woz in the paast a surtin goelden eera when repyutabl rietierz wer agreed az tu the speling ov wurdz ; that thai scruppyulusli adheerd tu an iideal, and wer az dezierus tu tranzmit tu posteriti the alfabetic dres ov thair rietingz az thai wer tu secyur a fyutyur for the substans ov thair creaishonz.—HENRY HODDER, Pontefract.

The leterz so misyuzd in English wurdz wer orijinali, and stil ar, fonetic simbolz, and bi the adopshon ov them English aimd at fonetic reprezentaishon, which iz veri eezi speling. Tu teeche "hou not tu spel" with such leterz iz ecstreemli difficult, and we noe that it iz freecwentli imposibl. Thoez hu can spel English hav lurnt hou not tu spel. It iz not unliec lurning hou tu stand on wun'z hed, tho that iz eezier. Sum can lurn, but meni never can, and it iz a bad habit tu acwier.—J. LLOYD KEATING, Hove.

Whot iz it we wont from the luum? Iz it not cloth? And duu we sai, when sum clever brain sujests an aulteraishon in the masheen which graitli fasilitait the producshon ov cloth, "Aa! we must not alou this tincering with the luum, els we mai suun not be aibl tu recogniez the orijinal masheen"? This iz not the atityud ov the wurd tu theez materz, at eni rait; no wun dreemz ov demuring; invenshon, impruuvment iz aloud, welcumd, and eegerli saut aafter in everi braanch ov the comurshal wurd; hens the arts and siensez which controel this wurd ar an ever-groing cwontiti, but the *Ars scribendi* remainz liec the unsiviliezd savij in an ever-recuring perpetyual saimnes.—OLIVE E. BADGER, Minehead.

Duz a biznes man retain oeld masheeneri for sentimental reezonz? He ceeps the wurcing ov hiz masheenz under constant syupervizhon; impruuvments ar peeriodic; oeld masheenz ar script az suun az mor efiscent aijents ar prodyust. The oeldest steem enjin iz the veriest infant compaird with our alfabet; yet tudai, whiel the steem enjin haz been modified beyond recognishon—tu our infinit gain—we ar stil yuzing the cumbrus and faulti masheeneri ov the sentyuriz for our riten langwij, and drieving it harder, with aul its meeningles complicaishonz and acyumyulaited rust. Its creecing wheelz hav not eeven been oild.—FREDERICK H. BLAKE, London.

Whi can not orthograferz imitait modern roedmaicerz in theez daiz ov sieclz and moetorz? Aul the oeld turnz and dublz, aul the aucwerd cornerz, aul the dainjerus plaisez ar cleerd awai and sensibl braud roedz hav been maid, along which veiclz ov everi descripshon can muuv freeli and rapidli. It iz truu sum pictyuresc spots hav been spoild, sum interesting plaisez remuuvd, sum noebl treez feld, but thai hav been sacrificiest for the comon saifti, and, tho we mai temporarili regret thair los, we suun lurn tu enjoi the nyu conveniensez provieded for our benefit. Whi, then, shood English speling be stil subjected tu hindransez and obstrucshonz, which materd litl when the paath ov lurning woz troden bi oenli a fyu, but which ar nou detrimental tu the proegres ov the meni and obstructiv tu the march ov the multityud?—GEORGE J. MICHELL, Devonport.

Sum ecspeeriens ov strugl and consentraited efort iz esenshal for mental disiplin and training. But if it iz good that thair shood be obstaclz tu be met and grapld with and oevercum, theoz obstaclz shood shuerli sufies which ocur natyurali in the vaiurus edyucaishonal

subjects, whiel thoez shood be avoided which hav no reezon for thair egzistens apart from thair posibl yus az dumi obstaclz ; just az in foot-raising, whiel the obstacl rais iz amyuzing enuf, it iz hardli counted az normal athletics.—JOHN HEALEY, Bolton.

See-ay-tee, cat ! Hou can a sistem ov edyucaishon flourish which beginz with such a monstros faulshood ? And this faulshood and tisyu ov faulshoodz can be upheld and efectyuali foisted upon miriadz ov natyurali reezonabl beingz, and, in spiet ov thair reezon, oenli bi meenz ov the insistent disiplin ov authoriti. Thair iz no apeel tu observaishon and reezon, which, indeed, brand it az a faulshood.—T. TALBOT LODGE, Lyons on Wallambin, Western Australia.

I duu not hezitait tu sai that the spred ov English and the consecwent acses tu English jurnalz, az distingwisht from the naitiv pres, wood duu mor than enithing els tu remuuv much ov the distrust and disafecshon which at prezent egzist amung our Indian feloe-subjects.—ANDREW BRODRICK, Birkenhead.

In Malta, whair the vernacyular iz an unwriten form ov Arabic, children ar taut English and Italian in the scuulz ; and whiel Italian iz eezili asimilaited in tu yeerz, English pruuvs tu be an obstacl thair never thuroeli oevercum dyuring the remainder ov thair scuul lief.—GEORGE WEIR, Leeds.

Advocait for a wurld langwij jenerali insist that it shal be a nyutral langwij. But that duz not apeer tu be eni gain. On the contrari, the acwizishon ov eni aulredi wiedli spoecen langwij at wuns confurz aul the advaantijez ov an acwaintans with its literatyur in adishon tu the advaantij ov prezent myutyual understanding bi speech or corespondens. The English langwij, from the grait simplisiti ov its gramar, the richnes ov its vocabyulari, the wiednes ov its difyuzhon, from its kinship with Latin and Teutonic langwijez which ar aulso wiedli difyuzd, from the opyulens and splendor ov its literari and siëntific storz, iz wel fited tu becum the wurld langwij ov the fyutyur. But wun thing iz lacing. For, whielst its gramatical construcshon iz so simpl az tu hav been the marvel ov such scolarz az Max Müller and Jacob Grimm, its orthografi iz the moest inconsistent, the wurst, ov aul literari langwijez.—T. TALBOT LODGE, Lyons on Wallambin, Western Australia.

THE REPRESENTAISHON OV “-ATE” AND SUM SIMILAR PROBLEMZ.

OUR furst referendum delt with the cwestion whether y shoold be yuzd for the second vouel in such wurdz az “veri, lili”; this woz not a mater ov pronunsiaishon.

Our second referendum raizez the hoel subject ov the vouelz in unstrest silablz. We pointed out that surtin ajectivz, liec “private, adequate,” wer jenerali pronounst with a short vouel, noetisabli diferent from the fienal vouel (or difthong) ov the vurbz “demonstrate, dilate,” and we invieted our memberz tu indicait bi thair voets whether this distincshon shoold be prezurvd in S.S., and, if so, whot speling thai wood recomend.

We hav reseevd 180 aanserz tu our incwieri, and this iz the rezult :

For no distincshon : 60, including 1 hu wood retain *-ate* and 1 hu wood riet *-ēt*.

For a distincshon : 120, and ov theez 55 voet for *-et*, 46 for *-it*, 15 for *-ut*, 2 sujest *-at*, 1 *-aet*, and 1 *-eut*.

Nothing cood shoe mor cleerli the unsurtinti that prevailz at prezent, oing tu the absens ov a standerd. Wun-thurd ov the voeterz prefur that the unredyust sound shoold be riten; but, it iz saif tu sai that eeven ov theez the grait majoriti duu not uter the unredyust sound in thair normal speech. Tu-thurdz wood liec tu represent the redyust vouel, but thai ar not agreed az tu the pronunsiaishon. The majoriti, it seemz, giv the unstrest *-ate* a valyu sumwhot liec that ov *e* in “pen”; a considerabl mienoriti giv it mor ov an *i* valyu.

In the surcumstansez we feel that the best cors, for the prezent, iz tu maic no distincshon, and tu riet “prieavait, adecwait,” and so on.

Sum ov thoez hu voeted ecsprest opinionz on the spelingz which did not comend themselvz : e.g. :

(a) “*-it* wurst, *-et* bad, *-ut* wurs.”

(b) “*-it* cocni, *-ut* imposibl.”

(c) “*-it* absurd.”

(d) “*-it*, *-et*, *-ut* wood be uterli rong.”

(e) “I thinc that moest peopl wood admit that the sentens, ‘That wood depriev it ov aul interest,’ containz the saim tu silablz.”

(f) “I thinc *-et* harmoniezez best with the prezent sceem; *foneticali -it* best reprezents mi oen pronunsiaishon.”

(g) “The pronunsiaishon ‘prieavait’ iz cwiet obsoleet, az the unstrest second silabl haz becum shortend tu *-et* or *-ut*. No dout ‘prieuvt’ iz the yuzhual pronunsiaishon in ordinari conversaishon, but ‘prievet’ iz stil comon and shoold be prefurd. The speling, ‘prievit’ I consider cwiet rong, and dyu tu impurfect discriminaishon between the soundz *i* and *u*. Eeven in the cais ov ‘cabij’ I shoold prefur ‘cabej’; but, ov cors, we ar obliejd tu riet ‘marij.’ I beleev yu riet

'daiziz' for 'daisies,' and 'daizez' for 'dazes,' which iz cwiet unjustifiabl. Thair iz no diferens ov pronunsiashon."

(h) "I faivor *-et* becauz it cariz the fonetic short vouel, coresponding tu the long wun in *-êt* (S.S., *-ait*). Historicali, the oeld speling, *-ate*, carid that long vouel, which in cors ov tiem haz dejeneraited intu the formles short vouel without stres on it (yuzhuali ecsprest siëntificali bi ə). Az we duu not propoez tu represent this formles vouel, we can not duu beter than chuuz the short vouel, which haz the best *historical* claim tu duu dyuti."

Tu theez coments it mai be yusful tu ad the fact that in fonetic transcripshonz ov such wurdz it iz customari tu represent the vouel sound in cwestion bi *i*, which iz understood tu stand, in unstrest silablz, for a mor luusli articyulaited sound than the *i* ov strest silablz.

Turning from the "private" wurdz tu uther caizez in which the fonetishanz recogniez this sound, we wood aasc our reederz tu consider whot impreshon the unstrest vouelz in "daisies, dazes; posies, roses; enclose, inclose; enquire, inquire" maic upon thair eer. The fonetishanz in theez caizez riets *i*. Duu *yu* maic a distincshon? Or, beter stil, woch utherz and record the result. Poot eech wurd intu a sentens; duu not tel yur victimz whot *yu* ar triing tu discover; get them tu reed yur sentensez in a natyural toen ov vois. In a number ov wurdz the leter *e*, in unstrest silablz, haz the valyu ov a luus *i*: in utherz the leter *i* iz ofen pronounst az the uther 'formles' vouel (ə in fonetic script): thus, "April" soundz liec "Aiprul," "utility" liec "yutiluti"—ov cors *without stres* on the *u*. We hav no statistics az tu the freecwensi ov this pronunsiashon; but it iz wel tu stait at wuns that it iz comon in the speech ov hieli edyucaited and bi no meenz cairles speecerz.

Wun ov the consecwensez ov our second referendum shood be tu maic sum hezitait befor condemning hoelsail eni pronunsiashon that iz not thairz. It iz just posibl that thai ar in a distinct mienoriti without noing it; and it iz wel not tu be tu cwic in retaliating: "Wel then, the majoriti ar unedyucaited, or slipshod, or affected speecerz." The plain fact iz that the bad oeld speling ofen infloonsensez our consepshon ov hou we speec, and even our speech itself. Wun ov the furst dyutiz ov the speling reformer iz tu free himself from the tirani ov the printed wurd and tu train hiz heering; and that can oenli be dun properli with a nolej ov at leest the elements ov fonetics.

[We had hoept tu deel with sum uther comynicaishonz about the vouelz in unstrest silablz; we must return tu the mater in our necst isyu.]

A STRONG ARGYUMENT.

THE strongest argyument for a speling that shal mor neerli represent the real soundz ov the wurdz must, it seemz tu me, rest on our sentiment for stiel and for poëtri, and on a dezier tu bring bac the feeling for poëtri from its fauls dependens on the vizibl aspect ov langwij, which iz aulwaiz artifishal, tu a dependens on the real substans ov langwij—that iz, the sound. A poëm surtinli luuzez nuthing in being wel red or spoecen. Oenli so can it atain tu its real egzistens az poëtri. Yet when it iz red or spoecen, whot becumz ov the speling? and ov the sentiment which iz alejd tu be mor or les dependent on the speling? For the saic ov truer sentiment, for the saic ov a truer feeling for English literatyur, and espeshali for poëtri, our speling shood be simplified.

C. H. PAGE,
Profesor at Columbia Yunivursiti.

DR. THOMSON'Z SCEEM.

THIS sceem woz kritisiezd in the laast number ov THE PIONEER. Dr. Thomson haz sent us a replie tu sum ov the points; our coments ar aded in brackets.

(a) "(i) It iz a seerius adishon tu the printer'z stoc ov tieps. . . . (ii) The length mark - iz tu much liec the recogniezd fonetic sien for naizal vouelz (\tilde{a} , \tilde{e} , ets.); and (iii) it tendz tu efais the distincshon between taul and short leterz."

Dr. T.: This can not be so, az wun marct leter taics the plais ov tu: thus \bar{a} , \bar{u} for *aa*, *uu*. The marc - iz not going tu be yuzd with the marc \sim , so thair wil not be eni confyuzhon; the marct vouel iz les indistinct than a dubl-leter vouel, which mai represent wun vouel sound or tu distinct vouel soundz—e.g. "Simplified Speling Sosiety."

[Dr. T. haz faild tu realizez the point ov our kritisizmz: (i) the adishon ov theez nyu tieps meenz a graiter number ov diferent tieps, which iz costli and trublsom; tu print S.S. meenz no noetisabl chainj in the compozitor'z cais (az woz shoen in an articl in our laast isyu); (ii) az we sed, and az Dr. T. implied in hiz pamflet, a fonetic alfabet shoold be internashonal, and if we adopt theez marct leterz for English we shoold aulso be aibl tu yuz them for French, whair the dificulti indicaited wood ariez; (iii) Dr. T. duz not aanser our objecshon, az he duz not seem tu apreshiait the wurc reesentli dun tu asertain whot tipografical feetyurz ar important for the recognishon ov wurdz.]

(b) "The marc - iz not yuzd consistentli: in 'pūt, riñ' the marc duz not indicait length at aul."

Dr. T.: With regard tu \bar{n} , this kritisizm iz frivolus. Eech marct and eech unmarct vouel leter represents a surtin definit sound; the length ov the sound iz not indicaited; and thus I riet "pūt, fūd, gūd, hol, holō," for "put, food, good, haul, hollow." If we adopt meni nyu sienz, the public wil probabli be unwiling tu consider the mater at aul; and unles we hav meni nyu sienz, the length ov eech sound in the langwij can not be represented. We must chuuz. Wood thair be eni harm in pronounsing the vouelz in "food" and "good" aliec?

[Dr. T. adopts a diacritic which iz yunivursali regarded az the marc ov length. In foraisez out ov sics he givz it the familiar valyu; thair iz shuerli nothing frivolus in pointing out that in the uther tu caisez he departs from custom. We duu not agree with him that the length ov vouelz can not be represented without nyu sienz, for that iz egzactli whot iz dun in S.S., tho we gladli conseed that our sceem iz caipabl ov impruvmnt. In edyucaited suthern speech thair iz surtinli a marct diferens in the vouelz ov "good" and "food." Dr. T. miet az wel aasc: "Wood thair be eni harm in pronounsing the vouelz in 'feed' and 'fit' aliec?"—or theoz in "haul" and the furst silabl ov "hollow," which, according tu hiz speling, ar idental.]

(c) "X shoold be retaind with its prezent valyu ov *ks*: so we ar tu riet: 'nek, neks, stik, stiks' " [but (we aded) "eg, egz, egzamin"].

Dr. T.: I duu not sujest this; *qu* and *x* (and *y* at the end ov a wurd) ar yuzd at prezent. I wood retain them. Thus for "annex, Styx, neck, necks, stick, stiks," I wood riet "anex, Styx, nek, neks, stik, stiks."

[Realiz, Dr. T. iz hard tu pleez. We sujest that he wood riet "nek, neks, stik, stiks," and he repliez, "No, I wood not: I wood riet—"nek, neks, stik, stiks"!! Our point, ov cors, woz that he wood retain *x* when it standz for *cs*, but not when it standz for *c* (az in "exceed") or for *gz* (az in "exert"). A chield wood natyurali wish tu riet rieming wurdz liec "fox, cocks; fix, tricks; wax, sacks; sex, decks" in the saim wai. Dr. T. ecspects him tu memoriez the wurdz that hav *x* in the speling.]

Dr. T. concludz bi saing: "I admier yur motoe for the Nyu Yeer: 'Let us be redi tu sacrifices our oen predilecshonz for the saic ov the grait cauz.'" So thair iz sum hoep for Dr. T. yet.

SPELING REFORM IN SWEDEN.

AZ regardz speling in its relaishon tu the spoecen langwij, I thinc Swedish mai be plaist on a par with German. It iz fairli fonetic, and speling reform iz not such a vecst problem tu the teecherz ov the langwij az it iz, or must be, tu thair English coleegz. We hav had cwiet a number ov parshal reformz in mi tiem, tho. The ofishal gardian ov Swedish langwij and literatyr iz the Swedish Academi, founded in 1786 bi Gustavus III on the patern ov the Académie Française, *en av de Aderton* ("wun ov the aiteen") being a tielt ov distincshon in this cuntri.

The *Ordlista* (wurd-list) isyud from tiem tu tiem bi this bodi haz long been the ofishal standerd ov speling in aul Swedish scuulz bi order ov the Swedish Bord ov Edyucaishon. The laast (seventh) edishon ov this wurc (daited 1903), houevar, duz not includ the nyu spelingz propoezd bi the Guvernment Speling Comiti ov 1904 and introdyust in aul Swedish scuulz bi Order in Council the saim yeer. This reform met with aulmoest yunivursal apruual az far az the teeching wurd woz consurnd, but haz been the subject ov severe critisizm and disapruual in surtin consurvativ surclz outsied the teeching profeshon. Nor can this be wunderd at, az the noveltiz introdyust bi the regyulaishonz ov 1904 ar raather radical. Thai ar cheeffi the foloing:—

(1) Myut *h* in the combinaishon *hv* (English *wh*) woz dropt. Thus, *hvem*, *hvad*, *hvar*, *hviska* (English "huum, whot, whair, whisper") ar nou riten *vem*, *vad*, *var*, *viska*.

(2) Whairever the sound ov *v* woz riten *f* or *fv* (at the end ov wurdz and between the vouelz respectivli), it iz nou riten *v*—*gräfva en graf* ("tu dig a graiv") nou apeering az *gräva en grav*.

(3) In the nyuter form ov ajectivz and partisiplz in *-d*, whair *d* becumz myut befor the ending *-t*—e.g., *göd*, *gödt* ("good"), *kallad*, *kalladt* ("cauld")—*d* woz dropt or *dt* leveld tu *tt* (aafter a strest vouel); thus, *god*, *gott*, *kallad*, *kallat*.

In the opinion ov meni teecherz it iz a mater ov regret that the Comiti did not duu awai with inishal myut *g*, *d*, and *l* az wel, aultho theez ocur in comparativli fyu wurdz, such az *gyuta* (German *giessen*), *dyur* (animal, English "deer"), *ljus* ("candl," English "liet"). The tu moest difcult cwestionz ov speling that stil remain tu be setld ar thoez consurning the notaishon ov the soundz ov *ng* in *ring* and *sh* in *shut*, for which we hav no speshal simbolz, the later being riten in ait diferent waiz (*sk*, *sj*, *skj*, *stj*, *ssj*, *sch*, *ch*, *g*). Whot with the reesent aulteraishonz—which must aulso be introdyust in aul nyu scuul boocs and in nyu edishonz ov oelder boocs—and the rezistans oferd bi the oelder jeneraishon, the speling ov Swedish iz at prezent in raather an unsetld stait. It iz tu be hoept that the necst edishon ov the *Ordlista* wil duu sumthing tordz re-establishing order.

I hav just seen that the nyu speling iz tu be adopted in aul Guvernment publicaishonz from Janyuari 1, 1913.

J. A. AFZELIUS, Gothenburg.

SIMPLIFIED SPELING AND THE BLIEND.

AUL frendz ov the English-speeing bliend aut tu taic a deep interest in the problem ov simplified speling. The method adopted for simplifying the speling must afeit the edyucaishon ov the bliend and the reeding posibilitiz tu a considerabl ecstent.

Rietli or rongli, the bliend hav hithertu choezen tu foloe the ordinari speling yuzd bi thoez hu can see. In the cais ov boocs for the bliend, whair no con-

tracshonz ar yuzd the ordinari speling haz neseditait the bliend feeling out a grait meni leterz which ar not pronounst and which wood be omited in a simplified speling. It must be rememberd that it iz imposibl for the bliend tu feel out mor than a leter at a tiem. Houever practist a bliend reeder mai be, he can oenli ges, he can not feel, ahed ov hiz fingerz. Simplified speling, which duz awai with dubl leterz, wil thairfor so far hav fyuer leterz for the bliend reeder tu feel out. And whotever reducshon can be maid in the toetal number ov leterz emplyd in the speling wil thus be a gain tu the bliend reeder and rieter. So far, then, in referens tu uncontracted point or lien sistemz ov reeding for the bliend, such az Braille or Moon. The bliend wil aulso be affected bi the method adopted for simplified speling in anuther wai. Moest sistemz ov reeding for the bliend hav a coed ov contracshonz and abreeviaishonz, and moest ov theez coedz hav been draun up on the bails ov the prezent speling. Nou the simplified speling wil aulter enormusli the relativ freecwensi ov the ocurens ov leterz on which the bliend coedz hav been bilt. This iz espeshali the cais in American Braille, which foloez the prinsipl that the leterz which occur the moest freecwenti shood hav Braille sienz with the fyuest dots. The saim remarc apliez tu New York point. So that, if the bliend elect, in fyutyr az in the paast, tu foloe the speling yuzd bi theoz hu see, the coedz for the yus ov the bliend wil recwier a moest cairful revizhon. I hoep that such revizhon mai pruv a grait blesing tu the bliend. Whether this iz so or not wil depend on hou the revizhon iz carid out. Mi calcyulaishon iz that the adoshon ov wun Braille sien for eech ov the elementari soundz wil efec a saiving ov neerli 15 per sent. ov the number ov leterz yuzd in uncontracted Braille or Moon, so that the bliend reeder wil hav tu feel oenli sics sienz whair he haz hithertu had tu feel our seven. In referens tu contracted and abreeviated Braille, the frendz ov the bliend wil need tu taic the deepest interest in the soluushon ov the problem ov simplified speling and see tu it that, az far az mai be, the bliend get the utmoest benefit posibl out ov the reform.

J. KNOWLES.

THE GRAIT PRACTICAL EEVIL.

THE grait practical eevel ov the condishon intu which the speling ov the English langwij haz drifted iz that it taics boiz and gurlz yeez and yeez ov constant aplicaishon tu maaster its inscrutabl ecsestrisiz, and that countles ourz ar thus waisted, and ofen in vain, which miet be aplyd tu the acwizishon ov sum nolej ov practical valyu. I hav red sumwhair that an Italian chield can be taut tu reed and spel corectli in les than a yeer from the tiem it beginz tu lurn, and thair iz no reezon whi it shood not be so, for, when wuns a chield haz lurnt tu apreeshiait at a glaans the voecal significans ov eech leter, it haz nuthing further tu lurn. Compar with this the yeez ov teedius drujeri which the English chield spendz in comiting tu memori—thair iz no uther method ov maastering it—the inconsistent and bewildering orthografi ov tenz ov thousandz ov wurdz in hiz oen langwij, and then thinc ov the edyucaishonal handicap which iz thus laid upon him in competishon with the Italian or German chield. In the prezent dai this iz the consideraishon which we can not aford tu luuz siet ov, not oenli becauz our children hav tu compeet in edyucaishon with the children ov aul uther naishonz, but aulso becauz public edyucaishon iz a veri hevi charj upon aul ov us in our capasiti ov rait-paierz and tacs-paierz, and we duu not wont tu ceep a chield at scuul for seven yeez lurning, and eeven then oenli lurning impurfectli, whot, under the mor rashonal sistem, he miet lurn in seven munths. I beleev I am riet in saing that this woz the consideraishon which cheefli muuvd the German Government in instityuting a simplificaishon ov German speling. Thair iz ten tiemz mor reezon for such a step in England than in Germany, and if our Edyucaishon Department duz not cair tu tacl the cwestion, I especit it wil be cheefli becauz no English politishan at the hed ov the Department wil dair tu fais the storm ov cheep ridicyul which eni atemt tu introdyus a litl comon sens intu the speling ov the langwij iz bound tu ecsest.—

HENRY LABOUCHERE.

NOETS AND NYUZ.

"I HAV g tu riet with and j tu speec with," sez the "Giant" in Mis Haynes'z plaiet, hoelding tu painted leterz aloft. It iz a delietful hit at the medli ov thingz az thai ar.

"Mi hed iz with yu; mi hart iz in revoelt," we comonli heer from franc objectorz. It givz ocaizhon for the foloing stori. An Irishman fled from batl. He woz sumond tu hiz comaanding ofiser for rebyuc. "Alas!" sed the fyujitiv, "I hav az braiv a hart az eni man in the armi, but mi couardli legz run awai with it." The hart haz a habit ov foloing the hed, az a constant reeding ov THE PIONEER wil pruuu.

IT iz pleezing tu noe that Mr. Hugh Miller, M.A., Lectyurer in English Literatyur at Aberdeen Yunivursiti, a grandsun ov the faimus author ov "My Schools and Schoolmasters," gaiv an adres on speling reform in Aberdeen reesentli. He delt faithfuli with the aijed argyuments against chainj. We welcum in Mr. Miller a pouerful advocait ov the nyu.

"Ov aul the dificultiz which combiend tu chec efectiv progres with the averaij boi, he beleevd the furst and moest formidabl tu be hiz lac ov a proper vocabyulari." The wurdz ar from Mr. Percy Simpson'z paiper at the English Asoesiaishon. Twenti yeez' ecspeeriens throbz in them.

AT the debait on "The Teeching ov English," arainjd bi the Teecherz' Gild, Prof. Rippmann pointed out hou a boi'z vocabyulari, his wepon ov progres, gatherz rust. Thair ar wurdz the chield dair not yuz, being unsurtin ov the speling; or, again, ov the pronunsiaishon. The boi'z riten suferz along with hiz oral wurc. Groen-ups ar ofen in similar straits. The veri wurd yu need iz forbiden becauz at that moement yu ar not shuer ov the pronunsiaishon. Or, yu hav tu be content with a les welthi or les acyurait wurd, inazmuch az the dicshonari iz mising! Wun oeld laidi got oever the dificulti bi underliening everi speling which seemd doubtful. Thai wil thinc, she sed, I'v dun it on purpos!

"If eni wun acheevz enithing nyu, peepl rezist with aul thair miet; thai act az if thai niether hurd nor cood comprehend; thai speec ov the nyu vyu with contempt, az if it wer not wurth the trubl ov eeven so much az an investigaishon or a regard; and thus a nyu truuth mai wait a long tiem befor it can maic its wai." (Goethe tu Eckermann.) But the hie-wai wil peers at length thru dezert and darcnes.

DR. EMERY BARNES, Profesov ov Diviniti at Cambridge, oepend a discushon on "Spelling Reform: 'To,' 'too,' 'two,' 'truly'!" befor the memberz ov the Malta Literari and Siëntific Sosieti on the 8th ov laast month. The niet (not the debait) woz stormi. Dr. Barnes pointed out sum instansez ov the ineffectiv yus ov *a*, *e*, *o*, and *u* in the unreviezd speling; yuzd theez az an argyument for reform; and sieted Italian, German, and (tu a larj ecstent) French az egzaamplz ov langwijez mor foneticali riten.

A STRAI leef ov the "Academy" for March 10, 1877, haz cum intu our pozeschon. It containz a long leter from the hand ov Dr. Ellis. Heer ar ecstracts: "The yus ov sum fonetic sistem, so far from injering our nolej ov etimoloji, iz our oenli posibl gied tu etimoloji when we can not heer the soundz themselfv, az aul thoez hu hav mor than the vaigest noeshonz ov whot etimoloji meenz ar wel awair. . . . We duu not wont tu noe the histori ov a wurd everi tiem we heer it. We can not noe enithing about it if we duu not noe its sound." Tu thoez hu wood introdyus uther vouel valyuz, Dr. Ellis sez: "The sistem ov compound speech soundz and thair methodz ov combinaishon ar diferent for everi langwij, tu such an ecstent that it iz difficult for the naitiv speecer ov wun tu prodyus the uther coredtli, even under a stait ov hie cultivaishon and aafter much instrucshon. *Hens our fonetic sistem shoold hav referens tu our oen langwij oenli.*" We hav poot the laast sentens intu italics.

AT the anyual diner ov the English Asoesiaishon, Mr. Granville Barker maid a noetabl apeel for pyuriti ov speech. "Whair the byuti ov the langwij is consurnd, it iz the riten wurd that mai dam and the spoecen wurd which mai saiv. I supoez the printing ov boocs consolidaited our langwij, and the oever-printing ov boocs iz in fair wai tu destroi it, becauz peepl get out ov the habit ov yuzing speech az thair cheef meenz ov comynicaishon. Lisen tu the ordinari conversaishonal sentens. I waijer yu wil not heer haaf the wurdz spoecen. We get at the meening ov the sentens bi a micstyor ov sens. . . . I duu not thinc our langwij can reali serviev in its byuti unles we coredt the prezent conversaishonal tendensi tu destroi it. Our speeing mai be bad, but our sens ov heering iz geting atrofied. In prodyusing a Shakesperean plai reesentli, the actorz wer acyuzd ov speeing indistinctli. I sed it woz the fault ov the audiens." Mr. Granville Barker loocs forward tu the establishment in everi toun ov an academi ov speech "tu which not oenli the actorz, but the inhabitants, wil goe tu lurn the byuti ov the langwij, and tu lurn tu giv dyu wait and emfasis tu whot thai sai." A speling reformer miet hav been at Mr. Barker's elboe. Hiz consurn for truu byuti ov langwij iz ourz aulso. Speech wil be beter when speling iz wiezer.

MR. GRANVILLE BARKER iz duing much in regard tu the truu stajing ov Shakespeare. Hiz *Twelfth Night* iz a byutiful prezentaishon. Mai we sujest that he goe further, and giv us Elizabethan pronunsiaishon? The astonisht audiens miet on reflecshon fiend that Shakespeare's spelingz wer mor loial tu speech than ar ourz. It wood be a lesen in the grait chainjez that hav taicen plais in pronunsiaishon. But we ceep the oeld botlz for the nyu wien.

"SPELING lurnt artifishali iz so much tiem throen awai," sez Dr. Rouse. He laments the los ov *r* from Suthern English speech. "Darc and truu and tender iz the North." Part ov the myuzic ov the lien iz in that recuring *r*. Wun ov the good points ov our sistem iz that the *r* speling iz left—tu win the melodi bac again.

THE "Woman Teacher's World" muuvz in the van ov the best edyucaishonal thaut. Reesentli it gaiv prominens tu a leter pleading for simplified speling az the Children's Magna Charta. The privilej ov free and ful development unthortwed bi cramping convenshonz woz the baisis ov the apeel. Mis Burstall haz promit tu riet a short articl foloing up the leter. Aafter aul, it iz in the world ov the wooman teecher that the difficultiz impoezed bi the curent speling groe liec thornz.

AN event in our histori woz Prof. Rippmann's paiper befor the Roial Societi ov Literatyor on the 22nd ov laast munth. With subdyud strength, nun the les

insiesiv becauz ov restraint ov argyument, the lectyurer pointed out hou intymaitli pyuriti ov speech iz bound up with a rashonal speling. "When we fiend in Shakespeare such formz az 'brest, frend, maner, wisht, livd, tung, honor,' or in Milton, 'vers, falshood, hed, grosnes, farewel, iland, sented,' we realizez that thai had no objecshon tu a fonetic speling ov wurdz, and we ar remiended that grait wurcs wer riten befor the speling becaim ficast." Theez stil wauterz run deep.

THE speling dril iz dun. The Bord ov Edyucaishon rang the deth-bel sum tiem agoe. But a dilema remainz. Strict dril aloen can prodyus the purfect speler. The finisht product ov the scuul wil thairfor be doutful in hiz speling. Biznes men complain. Teecherz, scuulz ar geting wurs, thai shout. Whitehall in defens ov itself, and teecherz in their oen interests, shood denouns the sistem—and dig its grait.

"BUT, mi sun," sed an elderli munc, "hou iz it that yu, tu huum God haz given an ie so truu, a hand so sutl yet furm, and a hart tu luv theez byutiful craafts—hou iz it that yu duu not culor az wel az riet? A scoel loocs but baren unles a border ov fruit and leevz and rich arabescs seround the good wurdz and charm the sens az thoez duu the soel and understanding." The pasij iz from *The Cloister and the Hearth*. It iz the Eesthetic Argyument. Tu regard the fashonabl speling az "byutiful" iz tu harc bac tu medieeval daiz; and lojicali we shood hav embelisht manyuscripts for nyuzpaiperz.

CHILDREN ar toeld in this mater ov speling that custom and authoriti ar against reezon. Iz not this the spirit ov the bliend Midl Aijez? Sur Alfred Hopkinson sez the efect ov the familiar speling iz tu leed the chield tu beleev that in lief nuthing iz lojical and consistent. We throe dust in the yung eeger iez and then crie out: "Behoeld!"

MIS HAYNES, herself the Hed ov an Infants' Scuul, sendz a fyu hapi vursez ov apeel tu chield luverz tu help on the cauz ov reform. Spais alouz the cloezing stanza oenli:

"Aul onor tu the ajitaishon
 From men ov lurned repyutaishon,
 Hu bi thair wurcs and eryudishon
 Compel a worldwied recognishon.
 Suun mai thair laiborz bair fruishon
 And Guvernement giv free permishon
 That wurdz be rit with wit and reezon,
 And siet with sound aloud coheezhon,
 Ataining thus the consumaishon
 'The English Tung for Everi Naishon.'"

"PAN," the nyu magazeen edited bi Mr. S. W. Simpson, wil apeer this munth. A good deel ov spais wil be given tu the advocasi ov speling reform. It iz a braiv ventyur, and we wish it grait prosperiti. "Pan" tu England costs 6s. a yeer, and the publisher'z adres iz 225 West 39th Street, New York.

MR. ARTHUR VASSALL, ov Harrow Scuul, rieting in "Science Progress," complainz that much ov "the wure for the averij boi, insted ov depending on hiz reezoning pouer and stimyulaiting hiz mental self-relians, iz redyust tu meer memoriezing. Consecwentli thair iz a los ov plastisiti and a lac ov resorsfulnes which ar hiel detrimental tu him in urning hiz oen living. But plastisiti, resors-

fulnes, and self-relians ar egzactli the nesesari atribyuts." The vois that speecs ov siëns miet hav spoecen ov speling.

"OUR prezent orthografi mai thairfor be rufli sed tu reprezent nienteenth sentyuri wurdz bi meenz ov simbolz which, tho bi no meenz yuzd with the simplisiti and self-consistensi ov fonetic speling, reeli stand for sicsteenth sentyuri soundz." An Elizabethan bilding for modern recwierments!

LORD AVEBURY haz accepted the invitaishon tu becum a Vies-President. We welcum him intu this intimait conecshon with our wurc.

SPESHAL propaganda literatyur mai be had on aplicaishon tu the Secretari. A replie-paid poest-card haz been draun up. A number ov comon objecshonz tu reformd speling ar indicaited and numberd, az ar advaantijez ov reform. Leefts coresponding tu theez numberz ar printed, and wil be sent on reseet ov the replie haaf ov the poest-card. The Secretari wil be glad if memberz wil help in plaising theez cardz, and in sujesting liebrariz and clubz tu which copiz ov THE PIONEER mai be sent. In the American fraiz, we wont tu get the dienamiet ov truuth intu the miend ov everi man.

THE foloing adishonal lectyurz hav been arainjd :—

Februari 22.—York	(N.U.T.).	Prof. Rippmann.
Aipril 18.—Grimsby	"	" "
" 26.—Ipswich	"	" "
September 18.—Worcester	"	" "
" —Bolton	"	" "
" —Sunderland	"	" "
" —Blyth	"	" "

Mr. C. E. Brittain, Hed Maaster, Normanton Gramar Scuul, iz adresing a meeting in hiz district.

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| T. S. Muthuswami Aiyar. | K. S. Subramania Aiyar. |
| P. Nagaraja Rao. | K. Venkatakrishna Rao. |
| K. Narasimham. | V. Venkateswara Aiyar. |
| K. Rama Varma. | D. Ventatarama Aiyar. |

PRES CUTINGZ CLASIFIED.

THIS munth the muuvment for Simplified Speling woz discust in the **Child**, Jan., an articl on S.S. bi the Secretari ("For the Saic ov the Chield"); the **Month**, Jan.; **Jarrow Guardian**, Jan. 3; **Daily Sketch** and **La Chronique**, Jan. 4; **London Budget**, Jan. 5 ("Clee Speech and Clee Speling," bi Prof. Rippmann); **Daily News**, Jan. 7: noetisez the S.S. staul at the Children's Welfare Egzibishon at Olympia; **Evening Standard**, Jan. 8: a menyu in S.S. at the S.S.B. bancwet, New York, yutiliezd az a method ov propaganda, aulso cwoeted in **North-Eastern Daily Gazette**, Jan. 9: the iedea ov this menyu iz yuzd bi the **Standard**, Jan. 9, az the baisis ov a sujestion for apliing a similar method ov propaganda tu wimen's sufrij; **Evening Standard**, Jan. 9, cwoets from "Tudai's Agoni Colum" a saampl ov "nyu speling"; cwoeted aulso in **Birmingham Gazette**, Jan. 10; **Mid-Glamorgan Herald**, Jan. 11: articl on "The Children's Magna Charta": aulso yuzd in **Neath Gazette**, Jan. 11; **Fife Free Press**, Jan. 11: a diferent articl on the saim subject; **East Anglian Daily Times**, Jan. 16: a noet on the yus ov fonetic speling for teeching forin langwijez; **Stranraer Free Press**, Jan. 16: on the literari aspects ov the "nyu speling"; **Daily Graphic**, Jan. 16: an ilustraishon ov the furst chec maid out in S.S. that haz been reseevd bi the Sosieti (aulso refurd tu bi **Evening News** ov saim dait, **Birmingham Gazette**, Jan. 17, and **Vanity Fair**, Jan. 22); **T.P.'s Weekly**, Jan. 17 ("H.D.," Hetton-le-Hole); **South Wales Daily News**, Jan. 18: articl on "Whair Welsh Gainz," shoing hou English speling iz inferior tu Welsh; **Essex Herald**, Jan. 21: candid, but not unsympathetic, criticism ov the S.S. sceem; **Barnsley Chronicle**, Jan. 25: "Clee Speech and Clee Speling," bi Prof. Rippmann; **Cork Examiner**, Jan. 27, refurz tu S.S. ov Irish; **Westminster Gazette**, Jan. 28: cwoets from an account ov our lait Prezident in the "Journal of English Studies"; **Manchester Dispatch**, Jan. 28: noetisez the remarc maid bi the Prezident ov a Loecal Braanch ov the N.U.T. upon the deterioraishon ov speling in the scuulz, which iz atributed tu fonetic teeching, and the concluzhon iz draun that, if shorthand cumz tu be mor jenerali taut, iether speling wil groe yet wurs or a reformd sistem wil hav tu be adopted; **Daily Telegraph**, Jan. 30: a noet on tipografi in scuulz, with a referens tu fonetic speling and S.S. ov Chinese.

Our Card ov GREETINGZ FOR THE NYU YEER haz been menshond, in adishon tu thoez aulredi reported in our laast number, bi the **Times of India** (Bombay), Dec. 25, **Kelso Mail**, Jan. 1, and **Home Chat**, Jan. 11.

The result ov the ESAI COMPETISHON woz given bi the **Evening News** Jan. 13.

Leterz IN SUPORT OV S.S. apeerd in the foloing paiperz:—**School World** Jan.: Prof. Rippmann coments on the paiperz about reeding and rieting methodz that wer red at the meeting ov the British Asoesiaishon; **Sunday Times** (Johannesburg) (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 1; **West Sussex Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Western Daily Mercury** ("Anglo-Scot"), Jan. 2; **Bookseller** (Corresponding Secretari S.S.S., in replie tu "Jacob Omnium"), and **Lewisham Borough News** ("Maud Campbell"), Jan. 3; **Western Mail** (Secretari S.S.S. repliez tu Mr. Lebolocarey), Jan. 4; **Newcastle Chronicle** ("Speling Reformer"), Jan. 7; **Star** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 8; **Western Mercury** ("Verbum Sap."), **Bristol Times and Mirror** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Newcastle Daily Journal** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Daily Graphic** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Yorkshire Post**, **Evening Standard** (Secretari S.S.S.), and **Helensburgh News** ("Stonehaven"), Jan. 9; **T.P.'s Weekly** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 10; **Arbroath Guide** ("En Avant"), **Standard** (W. H. Thompson), **Schoolmaster** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Daily Chronicle** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Sussex Express** ("F. L. L."), Jan. 11; **Irish Times** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Western Daily Press** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 13; **Sheffield Daily Telegraph** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 14; **Birmingham Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Woman Teacher's World** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Evening Standard** ("Contented Antiquarian"), Jan. 15; **Whitley Seaside Chronicle** ("Aber-

deen"), Jan. 18; **Standard** (W. H. Thompson), Jan. 20; **Evening Standard** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 21; **Helensburgh News** ("Cynicus" and "Anglo-Scot"), **Birmingham Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 23; **Armley and Wortley News** ("Magna Charta"), **Globe** (Corresponding Secretari S.S.S.), **Bookseller** (Corresponding Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 24; **Wandsworth Borough News** (Secretari S.S.S.), Jan. 25; **South Wales Daily News** ("Advocait ov S.S."), Jan. 28.

On the uther hand, leterz IN OPOZISHON TU S.S. apeerd in the foloing paiperz:—**Vanity Fair** (Robert Williamson: "I liec variëti. A wurd peepld bi hyuman gramfoenz duz not apeel tu me. It iz posibl tu pai tu deerli for the brutherhood ov man"), Jan. 4; **Bristol Times and Mirror** (S. G. Percival), **Yorkshire Post** ("J.R.B.J."), **Bookseller** ("Jacob Omnium"), Jan. 10, cwoeted bi **Globe**, Jan. 18, and **Bristol Evening News**, Jan. 20; **Standard** (Dr. A. W. Thomson), Jan. 6, 15, 29; **Evening Standard** (Algernon Ashton), Jan. 11, 17; **Birmingham Gazette** ("Winson Green"), Jan. 17; **South Wales Daily News** ("Working Man," criticizieing the articl, "Whair Welsh Gainz"), Jan. 23; **Western Morning News** (F. G. Delano, criticizieing the "fantastic chainjez" advocait bi the S.S.S.), Jan. 27; **Daily Express** (A. D. J. Champion: "The ecspoenents ov S.S. toetali ignor etimoloji"), Jan. 30.

The **Birmingham Gazette**, Jan. 1, containz a leter bi "F.W.C.," the rierter ov which declairz himself opoezd tu S.S., but yet in faivor ov a fonetic sistem. In the **Daily Express**, Jan. 22, Mr. E. A. Phipson points out the absurditi ov speling "tyre" with a y.

LECTYURZ ON S.S. wer reported, or comented upon, in the foloing paiperz:—**St. Bride's Institut**.—**Tit-Bits**, Jan. 4.

Royal Societi ov Literatyur.—**Daily Telegraph**, **Morning Post**, **Daily Graphic**, **Yorkshire Post**, **Sheffield Evening Telegraph**, **Liverpool Echo**, **Manchester Evening News**, Jan. 23; **Star**, **Standard**, Jan. 24; **Daily Herald**, **Newcastle Chronicle**, Jan. 25; **Torbay News**, Jan. 29; **Christian Endeavour Times**, Jan. 30; **Newcastle Evening Chronicle**, **Watford Post**, Jan. 31.

Merthyr.—**Western Mail**, Jan. 24.

Northampton.—**Northampton Echo**, Jan. 25, 27.

Leeds Training College.—**Yorkshire Observer**, **Yorkshire Post**, Jan. 28.

THE PIONEER iz cwoeted in the **Pall Mall Gazette**, Jan. 16, which givz the joec (for which see PIONEER, Vol. II, paj 9) about roeman nyumeralz; aulso cwoeted bi **Birmingham Gazette**, Jan. 17, **Cambria Daily Leader**, Jan. 18, **Sunderland Echo**, Jan. 20, and **Mid-Glamorgan Herald**, Jan. 25; the **Straits Times** (Singapore), Jan. 16, cwoets from THE PIONEER a noet on hou tu spel "traid"; the **Daily Herald**, Jan. 18, cwoets the anecdoet ov Uncl Remus and the speling ov "grafic"; this iz aulso yuzd bi **Pall Mall Gazette**, Jan. 20, and the **Cambria Daily Leader**, Jan. 22; the **Pall Mall Gazette**, Jan. 21, containz a breef noetis, in wood-be S.S., ov THE PIONEER; **Birmingham Gazette**, Jan. 23; the **Streatham News**, Jan. 24, cwoets from and coments upon the laast number ov our jurnal; **Dundee Advertiser**, Jan. 25, acnolejez our con-gratyulaishonz tu Sur James K. Caird; the **Evening Standard**, Jan. 25, coments upon the isyu ov the surcylar ov the "Colliery Owners Association, Ltd.," advertiezd in the Janyuari number ov THE PIONEER; aulso noetist bi **South Wales Daily News**, **Birmingham Evening Dispatch**, **Hull Daily News**, **Nottingham Evening Post**, Jan. 27; **Northern Daily Telegraph**, **Star**, Jan. 28; **Newcastle Evening Mail**, Jan. 29. The **Dundee Advertiser**, Jan. 25, haz sum veri frendli and simpatetic remarcz upon the laast isyu ov THE PIONEER.

In adishon tu thoez reported in THE PIONEER for Janyuari, a veri larj number ov paiperz hav devoeted atenshon tu the sentenari ov the lait SUR ISAAC PITMAN. Out ov a toetal ov 150 pres cutingz on this subject which hav reecht us in the cors ov the munth, no fyuer than 88 deel in sum form or uther with the cwestion ov S.S., which subject, bi the wai, haz been descriebd az Sur Isaac's faivorit child. The foloing paiperz menshon S.S.: **Newark Advertiser**, Jan. 1; **Aberdeen Daily Journal**, **Globe**, **Scotsman**, **Gosport Journal** ("C.H.C."), **Dalkeith Advertiser** ("C.H.C."), Jan. 2; **Buteman**, **Rothsay Chronicle**,

Birmingham Mail ("Izaak"), Bristol Times and Mirror, Manchester Guardian ("Alfred Kingston"), Cambridge Independent Press ("Denis Crane"), Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald ("Denis Crane"), Jan. 3; Bath Herald, Birmingham Evening Dispatch, Tit-Bits, Bristol Times, Sheffield Evening Telegraph, Bournemouth Guardian, Newcastle Weekly Chronicle, Daily Chronicle ("Phonographer"), Daily Telegraph, Derby Express, Dundee Courier, Evening Mail, Evening Standard, Liverpool Post, Manchester City News, Monmouth Post ("Pitmanite"), Northampton Echo, North-Eastern Daily Gazette, Northern Echo ("C.H.C."), Smethwick Telephone ("C.H.C."), Times, Westminster Gazette, Windsor Express ("Denis Crane"), Yorkshire Evening Press, Yorkshire Observer, Yorkshire Post, Schoolmaster, Pall Mall Gazette, Scotsman, Jan. 4; Sunday Times, Jan. 5; Oldham Evening Chronicle, Glasgow Times (Evening), Irish Times, Sussex Daily News, Daily Graphic, Jan. 6; Newcastle Chronicle, Bournemouth Guardian, Birmingham Gazette, Jan. 7; Star, Jan. 8; Newcastle Journal, Evening Standard, Daily Graphic, Yorkshire Post, British and Colonial Printer, Glasgow News, Bristol Times, Christian World, Jan. 9; Bristol Times and Mirror (letter by S. G. Percival), Universe and Catholic Weekly, Yorkshire Post, Great Thoughts, Jan. 10; Inquirer, Middlesex Advertiser (Uxbridge) ("Denis Crane"), Christian Life, Berwick Advertiser, Bath Chronicle, Jan. 11; Bath and Wilts Daily Chronicle, Jan. 13; Reading Standard, Commercial Education, Jan. 14; Tenby Observer, Lancashire Post, Jan. 16; Worksop Guardian, Melton Mowbray Times, Jan. 17; Preston Herald, Derby Mercury, Bournemouth Guardian, Jan. 18; Manchester City News, Scots Pictorial, Jan. 25; Manchester Guardian, Manchester Courier, Western Mail, South Wales Daily News, South Wales Echo, Jan. 27.

Our BLAC LIST for opponents of spelling reform has been very little occupied during the month, and it is really beginning to look as if it may have to be relegated to the lumber room. The Bournemouth Guardian, Jan. 18, has an article strongly attacking the S.S. scheme as being "not at all simple, but complicated and difficult to grasp." Considering the large and rapidly growing number of people who find the scheme the reverse of difficult, we feel we must avenge ourselves by retort that the difficulties of grasping it depend upon the grasper. The Wandsworth Borough News, Jan. 18, has similar adverse comment, which has already been dealt with, as has the Bournemouth Guardian, in correspondence; the Evening Mail, Jan. 21: an article on "Futurism Everywhere," a groan at everything in general, not forgetting S.S.; out of compassion for the wounded spirit of the writer we have abstained from simplifying the title of his article! A few minor offenders will be found among the correspondents mentioned above.

EDITORIAL NOTE.

THE PIONEER is published every month, except for two months in the summer. The Editor's address is 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PIONEER is sent gratis to all Members of the Simplified Spelling Society. The annual subscription for Associated Members is a minimum of one shilling, that for Active Members a minimum of five shillings. More money means more power to carry on the campaign.

Members are urged to apply for leaflets setting forth the aims of the Society. These and all other information will be gladly sent by the Secretaries of the Simplified Spelling Society, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

THE GYPSY CLUB

woz founded a yeer agoe tu provied the yuzhual fasilitiz ov a Soeshal Club.

OBJECTS.—Tu opoez the artifishialiti ov modern lief. Tu promoet feloeship among thoez interested in Gypsiz, and Gypsiz themselfz. Tu encuraij studi ov, and conversaishon in, the *Romani* Langwij. Tu promoet a graiter interest in the studi ov Foec-Lor jenerali. Tu encurij camping, caravaning, and everi form ov out-dor sport and recreaishon.

SUBSCRIPSHON.—The subscripshon haz been ficut at £1 anyuali, and membership cariz no further liabiliti.

PROGRAM.—Premisez hav been taicen at 5 Hand Court, London, W.C., whair Memberz hav the yus ov modestli convenient roomz decoraited in the moest apruuvd Gypsy stiel. A Liebrari, the moest compleet ov this descripshon, ov Gypsy, Foec-Lor, and Oepen Roed Boocs and Pamflets iz oepen free tu Memberz. Lectyurz and Paiperz upon Gypsy and Oepen Air ar given weecli. Conserts and “At Hoemz,” at which Gypsy Artists apeer, ar arainjd from tiem tu tiem. Egzibishonz ov the faimus Metal-wurcing, Baascet-maicing, and Tincer-wurc ov the Gypsiz ar held peeriodicali. Performansez ov Foec-Plaiz, a feetyur ov the Club. A Bi-Munthli Jurnal iz isyud tu Memberz, and adishonal publicaisonz ar isyud from tiem tu tiem.

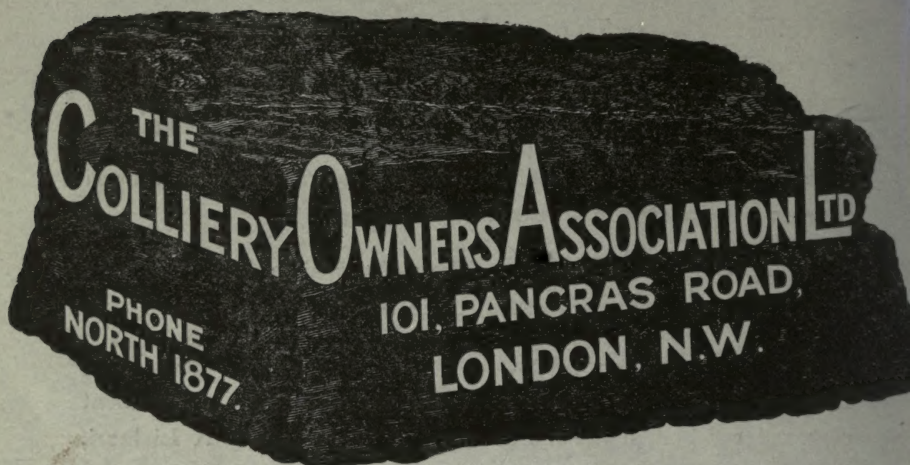
CATALOGZ ov the Gypsy, Foec-Lor, Oepen Roed, and Topografical secshonz ov the Club Liebrari ar nou redi.

Thair iz a groing interest in Foec Tailz, Plaiz, Songz, and Foec-Lor jenerali, whielst the studi ov the Gypsy Rais involvz important lingwistic and historical problemz which hav engaijd, and duu stil engaij, the atenshon ov sum ov the moest hieli-traind miendz in Europe.

Meni ov the cheef liebrariz and lurned Sosietiz ov Europe ar nou subscrieberz tu the publicaisonz, whielst meni ov the best noen literari men and wimen ov the dai hav joind the Club.

PATRONIEZD BI

H.R.H. PRINSES HENRY OV BATTENBERG.



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